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2390/47503

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Jacob Richter

Serial No.

Filed : Herewith

FOR : STENT WITH VARIABLE FEATURES TO

OPTIMIZE SUPPORT AND METHOD OF

MAKING SUCH STENTS

Examiner

Group Art Unit

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

Prior to the mailing of a first Office Action, please consider the remarks below.

## In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-47 and 49-50.

Please amend claim 48 as follows:

- 1 48. (amended) An expandable stent for treating a lumen having a
- 2 non-uniform radial force, comprising: a plurality of interconnected
- 3 flexible cells defining a stent having a proximal end and a distal
- 4 end and a longitudinal axis, the cells arranged in a plurality of
- 5 interconnected flexible rows [defining a stent having a proximal end
- 6 and a distal end and a longitudinal axis] disposed along the
- 7 longitudinal axis of the stent with a distal row disposed at the
- 8 distal end of the stent and a proximal row disposed at the proximal

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